



SPS/17/010

8 February 2017

Open Letter from School Leaders

Dear Parents/Guardian

1. Greetings from Sembawang Primary School! We are into second half of Term 1. We hope your child has settled well into the school routine and are putting in good effort in his/her learning.

New staff members & new appointment ...

2. New additions to the Sembawang family. We want to welcome the following new staff:

- Miss Nur Adilah Binte Khamsani, Malay Language teacher;
- Miss Evelyn Poh Ting Yan, PE/Math teacher.

Important Information...

Security Matters

3. The security and safety of our students are of paramount importance to us. We seek your understanding for the security measures put in place to check that only authorised persons are allowed to enter the school.

Access to the school

4. All visitors to the school must enter the school via the main gate and register at the Security Guard Post located there. Registered visitors will be issued a Visitor's Pass for easy identification by staff and students. Visitors should display the Visitor's Pass at all times while in school and proceed directly to the General Office where our office staff can attend to their needs.

5. Before the morning assembly, students may enter the school using either the main gate or one of the side gates. The opening hours of the side gates for students are shown below:

	Before morning assembly	Regular school dismissal
Side gate 1** (opposite block 317)	6.45 am to 7.30 am	1.30 pm to 2.00 pm
Side gate 2 (opposite block 305)		

*****Side gate 1 will be closed due to construction of public linkway from 13 February to end of June.***

6. In the interest of safety, we strongly encourage parents not to send their children to school before 6.30 am as the few school staff around at that time will be busy getting the school ready for classes.

Morning drop-off

7. Due to the constraints of space and for the safety of our students, parents who drive their children to school may alight them at the sheltered foyer. We seek parents' cooperation to get their children ready to alight with their school bags, so as not to hinder traffic flow and obstruct other vehicles. Parents may also alight their children at the public carparks nearby and let the students enter the school via the side gates.

8. We urge parents who drive into the school to exhibit patience and care within the school premises. Please keep to the speed limit of 15 km/h and follow the directions given by our school staff or the security guards.

School dismissal

9. Students may be dismissed via the main gates or one of the side gates during school dismissal at 1.30 pm. For the safety of all students, parents should wait at the designated areas along the walkway at the main gate or the void decks of the HDB flats near the side gates so as to avoid congestion at the gates.

10. Parents who are driving in to pick up their children can only do so 10 minutes after the regular school dismissal time (i.e. 10 minutes after 1.30 pm) or when all our school buses have left.

Celebration of successes ...

11. **Prefects' Investiture.** On 23 January, the Prefects' Investiture ceremony was held during our weekly Assembly to recognise 35 newly appointed Student Prefects from P4 & P5. The Prefects' Investiture presents a formal occasion for the Prefectorial Board to be formally presented to the school body. The Prefects will then be given the authority over the student body to carry out their duties, serving with sincerity and humility. We are pleased to announce that Ferdi Choo of P6A was appointed the Head Prefect and Charmaine Lim Shuen Ying (of P6B) and Gao Yuan Yuan (of P6A) as Vice-Head Prefects. Our appreciation also goes to Ms Joey Tan, the teacher-in-charge of the Prefectorial Board, for nurturing the student leaders under her care.

12. **National Schools Games (NSG)** is an annual inter-schools sporting event. The Opening ceremony, graced by Minister of State for Education Dr Janil Puthuchery, was held at Singapore Sports Hub on 25 January. We are pleased to announce that our Rugby boy, Ricqiey Dannyal Bin Abdullah of P6E, was selected to be the torchbearer, representing all primary schools' athletes. It is indeed an honour. We are so proud of you, Ricqiey!

Up-coming school events ...

13. **Total Defence Day** is marked annually on February 15 in Singapore to commemorate the anniversary of the surrender of the British to the Japanese on February 15, 1942, followed by 3 years and 6 months of Japanese Occupation.

14. Our school will commemorate Total Defence Day on 13 February. Through the activities and assembly programme, we hope the students will be able to understand the significance of Total Defence Day. Total Defence involves every Singaporean playing a part, individually and collectively, to build a strong, secure and cohesive nation. When we are strong, we are able to deal with any crisis.

15. To help our students understand a little of the hardships suffered by the people during the Japanese occupation, the school canteen will change its usual recess menu on 13 February to that of selling food that was eaten during war time. We hope that you will give us your support!

16. **The annual P4 Adventure Camp** is organised to introduce students to outdoor education and provide them with meaningful opportunities for cooperative learning and teamwork. During the camp, students will also learn important life skills, for example, being independent, responsible and confident. Throughout the camp, students will be accompanied by our school teachers and guided by qualified instructors as they build up their confidence and competence to face challenges.

17. This year, the camp will be held at the Labrador Adventure Centre from 13 March to 15 March. We hope you will give us your support and encourage your child to attend the camp.

18. **SA1 for P3-6.** We thought it might be helpful to you in planning the revision schedule with your child by providing you with the schedule for the mid-year examination (SA1) for P3 to P6:

Date	Subject	Level
17 April afternoon	MTL Oral	P4
20 April afternoon	EL Oral	P4
	EL Oral & MTL eOral	P6
21 April afternoon	EL Oral & MTL eOral	P6
27-28 April afternoons	EL & MTL Oral	P3 & P5
Thursday, 4 May	EL & MTL Paper 1	P3 – P6
Friday, 5 May	MTL Paper 2 & Listening Comprehension	P3 – P6
Monday, 8 May	Math	P3 – P6
Friday, 12 May	Science	P3 – P6
Monday, 15 May	EL Paper 2 & Listening Comprehension	P3 – P6
Tuesday, 16 May	Higher Mother Tongue	P5 – P6

Concluding remarks...

“Self-discipline is the ability to make yourself do what you should do, when you should do it, whether you feel like it or not.”

~ Elbert Hubbard

19. We believe that every child has talents. To be effective in the use of his/her talents, it requires discipline and hard work. Parents, let’s encourage our children to exercise self-discipline and diligence in everything he/she is tasked to do or set his/her heart to achieve.

20. Thank you and have a wonderful month ahead! Enjoy your quality time with your child this March holiday.

Warmest regards,

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